## Warden Message – U.S. Embassy, Quito, Ecuador

## State of Exception Extended for 60 Days in Quito

October 12, 2010

The U.S. Embassy in Ecuador advises American citizens living or traveling in Ecuador that the State of Exception, put in place as a result of police protests on September 30, has now been extended to 60 days in the capital city of Quito only. It has been lifted in the rest of the country. However, this means that the military and police will have law enforcement authority in the city of Quito.

U.S. citizens are advised to be cautious, remain aware of their surroundings at all times, and to avoid unnecessary travel, particularly after dark. Quito is rated **CRITICAL** for crime by the U.S. State Department, which is the highest level that a post can be rated. Therefore, individuals should remain vigilant and on-guard at all times.

The U.S. Embassy recommends continuing to monitor Ecuadorian news outlets for any updates. The Embassy will continue to provide new information as the situation warrants.

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Americans living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate and to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador through the <u>Department of State's travel</u> <u>registration website</u>.

U.S. citizens should consult the <u>Country Specific Information</u> for Ecuador and the latest Travel Alerts and Warnings and Worldwide Caution at the <u>Department's website</u>. Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

The U.S. Embassy in Quito is located at Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro. The telephone number for American Citizen Service (ACS) inquiries is (011 593-2) 398-5000. Within the same city use the last seven digits. Add the city code for intercity telephone calls. Public call-in hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. and Friday 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Appointments for ACS are available through our website.

The <u>U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil</u> is located at the corner of Avenida 9 de Octubre and Garcia Moreno (near the Hotel Oro Verde); telephone (011-593-4) 232-3570 during business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or 232-1152 for after-hours emergencies.

Anyone can follow the activities of the U.S. Embassy in Ecuador through the <u>Embassy web site</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.